

GIRL AT THE OTHER TABLE

The Astorian's Short Story.

In the palm room of the big hotel there were just two couples, one at the little table near the fountain, the other in the corner under the musicians' balcony.

There was no music now, for it was between lunch time and dinner, and the couple at the table by the fountain were having tea.

The couple under the balcony had ordered a more substantial repast, lobster and a bird and salad, and they ate with an appetite that showed that they had missed their midday meal.

"I don't think I was ever so hungry in all my life," said the girl at the table under the balcony.

"I'd be ashamed to have such an appetite," the man opposite her teased. "Your grandmother would have been satisfied with the wing of a chicken, Marta."

"Well, I'm not my grandmother," and Marta made a little face at him. "Besides, my grandmother used to sit on a cushion and sew a fine seam, and I have been whizzing through miles of country. And I'm ravenous, Archie."

"That girl over there," said Archie, "is satisfied with a toasted muffin and ten. She's a pretty little thing."

Marta twisted around so that she could get a good view. "She's a beauty," she declared heartily. "That red gold hair is stunning. And that brown veil brings out the lights. Oh, you ought to paint her, Archie!"

"I don't know her," Archie said. "I don't know the man."

"Why, it's Billy Butler," Marta said as she took another look. "I couldn't mistake Billy's back. There's that



"THIS IS ONE OF MY OLDEST FRIENDS."

hunch of his shoulders and that light shock of hair. But the idea of Billy drinking tea!"

"A man couldn't drink anything but tea with that girl," Archie told her. "She wouldn't stand for anything else."

"I never let you have anything but coffee," Marta said.

"Good old girl!" was Archie's affectionate commendation. "Marta, you're a wonder! And I'll bless you as my fairy godmother if you will get me an introduction to that girl."

"I'm afraid I can't," Marta said doubtfully. "Billy Butler and I quarreled dreadfully the last time he came to see me, and we don't speak."

"Marta," Archie fixed her with a reproachful eye, "I'll bet you refused him again."

"Well, if I did," Marta contended, "he needn't act so idiotically, and he's evidently consoled."

"She's a pretty girl all right," Archie enthused.

"She won't make Billy half as good a wife as I would," Marta declared. "I was cut out for Billy."

"Why didn't you marry him then?" Archie asked.

"Because he's so jealous," Marta confided. "He didn't like my letting you paint my picture, Archie. He said we were together too much and that girls always liked artists and that he didn't stand any chance because he was in business and all that tommyrot. So I told him he could go and not come back. But now he will marry the wrong girl. And I shall be an old maid."

"Not if I can help it," Archie stated valiantly. "We may be cousins, Marta, but if the worst comes to worst we can save each other from single blessedness."

"I don't want to be saved," Marta informed him succinctly. "I always said that if I didn't marry Billy I shouldn't marry any one. But of course I expected Billy to come back."

"Of course," sympathized Archie, "a man ought never to take a girl's 'no' in earnest."

"Well, Billy has," and Marta applied herself to the salad in anything but a loverly manner, "and I feel it in my bones that I shall have to send teaspoons to that red haired girl."

"Her hair isn't red. It's gold with red lights in it."

"It isn't," Marta contradicted.

"It is."

"It's red," said Marta.

"It's gold," said Archie.

"There's only one way to settle it,"

Marta said. "I'll go over and ask Billy."

"But I thought Billy wouldn't speak to you."

"He'll have to," Marta declared. "and while we are waiting for our parfait I'll ask the question."

Before Archie could stop her she was out of her chair and halfway across the room.

"Billy," she said as she came up to the other table, and Butler turned half around in his seat and stared at her.

"Marta!" he ejaculated. "Where did you come from?" And he was on his feet in an instant.

"I am at the other table," Marta explained, "with Archie Vandervort. He wants you to decide an argument, and if you don't mind going over I will sit down here for a minute."

"Certainly, and I'm so glad to have you meet Miss Merriam. Ruth, this is one of my oldest friends, Marta Blaine."

"You won't mind his going over to the other table, will you?" Marta asked as she sat down.

"Oh, no," and Miss Merriam turned on her a brilliant glance, "not if you will stay with me. I have heard so much about you, Miss Blaine."

"Oh, dear," Marta questioned, "what has Billy been saying?"

"Such nice things," the other girl told her. "And now that I have seen you I don't believe they are any too nice."

Marta waved the flattery aside. "Dear child," she said, "Billy will say anything when he is out of my sight. I can keep him straight when I am with him."

"I just love Cousin Billy," said Miss Merriam. "He's the dearest thing!"

Marta stared. "Cousin," she said—"cousin! Are you Billy's cousin?"

"Yes."

"Well, I might have known," Marta murmured. "Dear old Billy!" Then she went on: "I am with my cousin too. He wants to paint you. He is an artist, you know. You won't mind?"

"I should love it," said Ruth.

"It's about your hair," Marta told her, "that I sent Billy over. Archie said it was gold, and I said it was red. You mustn't mind my saying it, because really I was jealous of you. But now that I know you are Billy's cousin I think your hair is beautiful. I was afraid I should have to send you teaspoons."

"Teaspoons?" was Ruth's puzzled question.

"Yes, for a wedding present, you know."

Ruth blushed.

"The idea!" she said. "Why, every one knows that Billy's dead in love with you. He has told me so a dozen times."

Marta gave a sigh of relief. "I was afraid he had stopped," she said. "And I should miss Billy's adoration dreadfully."

"I shall never stop," said Billy, who had come up behind her. Then he went on as if he had made the most commonplace declaration. "Archie says you are to come back and eat your parfait, Marta."

"I would rather eat it with you," said Marta unblushingly. "I'll tell you, Billy, you bring Archie over here and we will introduce him to Ruth. He wants to paint her picture, and he would rather talk to her than eat, and you can come over to the other table and have parfait with me and everything will be lovely."

"Yes, everything will be lovely," Billy agreed, but Ruth said in a startled way, "Oh!"

"Oh, you needn't mind," Marta said when Archie had been presented and was seated opposite the red gold beauty. "Billy and I will chaperon you from the other table. It will be perfectly proper, for we are engaged, you know." And, with a sparkling glance at her lover, she swept past the fountain toward the balcony.

"Well, of all things," Billy ejaculated. Then he held out his hand to Archie. "Congratulate me," he said. "I don't know what made her change her mind, but I've been working for this for a year." And, with happiness fairly radiating from his handsome countenance, he made his way across the room to where the lady of his heart awaited him.

Good Cough Medicine for Children.

The season for coughs and colds is now at hand and too much care cannot be used to protect the children. A child is much more likely to contract diphtheria or scarlet fever when he has a cold. The quicker you cure his cold the less the risk. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the sole reliance of many mothers, and few of those who have tried it are willing to use any other.

Mrs. F. F. Starcher, of Ripley, W. Va., says: "I have never used anything other than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for my children and it has always given good satisfaction." This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given as confidently to a child as to an adult. For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

It is stated that Japan will make the lowest bid for building a new navy for Spain. If gunners are to be included King Alfonso is a good judge of a bargain.

Orino Laxative Fruit Syrup, the new Laxative stimulates, but does not irritate. It is the best Laxative. Guaranteed or your money back. Sold by T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

Ring's Little Liver Pills wake up lazy livers, clean the system and clear the skin. Try them for biliousness and sick headache. Price 25c. Sold by Frank Hart.

BARON PLAYED POKER.

Lost His Coin and Then Found He Was Up Against Sharps.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—Baron v. Z. K. Von Ittersum, of Berlin, played poker on board the liner Kronprinzessin.

Cecilia on her last trip across the ocean. Incidentally he lost \$600 in cash and gave notes for \$600 and \$800 more. Now a man who gave his name to the police as "Burt Goldy" and later as "Boro Goldblatt," is in jail, having been arrested on complaint of the baron. It is claimed that after the baron had lost his money two well known New Yorkers told him that he was being fleeced with marked cards. He says he examined the cards and found this to be true. When Goldblatt called at the baron's hotel with one of the notes he was arrested. Goldblatt told the police he was the friend of well known gamblers who have been barred from several of the big liners. It also said he was interested with Abraham Ruef in several moving picture shows in San Francisco, which city, he says, is his home.

The Commercial.

The Commercial evidently is not experiencing any hard time, judging by the liberal patronage accorded this well known resort. Good goods, and a well furnished place surely attracts the best class of trade and Otto Sund is kept busy catering to it. Everyone knows the Commercial as a pleasant place to spend a few minutes in, and it has long been recognized as a well known place of meeting for friends. Drop in and see for yourself. Commercial street near 11th.

In describing the interview between the president and Mr. Bryan, the correspondents fail to say which one made the best score as a good listener.

Notice to Our Customers—

We are pleased to announce that Foley's Honey and Tar for coughs, colds and lung trouble is not affected by the National Pure Food and Drug law as it contains no opiates or other harmful drugs, and we recommend it as a safe remedy for children and adults. Sold by T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

The expectant Christmas shopper is not one who defers purchases until the final crush. Those who buy early also relieve the strain on employes.

TWICE-TOLD TESTIMONY.

Astoria People Are Doing All They Can For Fellow Sufferers.

Astoria testimony has been published to prove the merit of Doan's Kidney Pills to others in Astoria who suffer from bad backs and kidney ills. Last year a sufferer doubt that the cures made by Doan's Kidney Pills are thorough and lasting, we produce confirmed proof—statements from Astoria people saying that the cures they told of years ago were permanent. Here's a Astoria case: J. Pedersen, 613 Commercial street, Astoria, Oregon, says: "For two years I suffered more or less from kidney complaint. At night there was such a terrible aching through the small of my back that I would be unable to sleep and consequently arose in the morning feeling tired and worn out. I was languid and nervous through the day, had severe headaches, dizzy spells were of frequent occurrence and at such times, spots would float before my eyes. At last I procured Doan's Kidney Pills, used them according to directions and received a complete cure." (From statement given January 19, 1906).

For Sale by All Dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, Sole Agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Pedestrian Weston must be a pessimist. He complains that the roads are no better than they were a quarter of a century ago.

Beware of Frequent Colds.

A succession of colds or a protracted cold is almost certain to end in chronic catarrh, from which few persons ever wholly recover. Give every cold the attention it deserves and you may avoid this disagreeable disease. How can you cure a cold? Why not try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy? It is highly recommended. Mrs. M. White, of Butler, Tenn., says: "Several years ago I was bothered with my throat and lungs. Someone told me of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I began using it and it relieved me at once. Now my throat and lungs are sound and well." For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

Remedies for the currency seem to be even more numerous than cures for a cold.

Ring's Little Liver Pills wake up lazy livers, clean the system and clear the skin. Try them for biliousness and sick headache. Price 25c. Sold by Frank Hart.

Early Morning Comfort. Open your sleeping-room windows—let in the crisp, fresh air—but your room need not be cold while dressing—a touch of a match and the welcome heat is radiating from the PERFECTION Oil Heater. Equipped with Smokeless Device. For heating the bath-room quickly it's a great convenience, and will make the morning dip as glorious as in the summer. Now it's breakfast time—make the room cozy and cheerful—your breakfast more enjoyable and start the day without a shiver. The Automatic Smokeless Device prevents all smoke and smell and makes it impossible to turn the wick too high or too low. Cleaned in a minute—burns 9 hours with one filling. Finished in Nickel and Japan. Every heater guaranteed. The Rayo Lamp can be used in any room—household use—light and heat for all-around burner—bright light of small cost. Absolutely safe. All parts easily cleaned. Made of brass, nickel plated. Every lamp warranted. If you cannot get the Rayo Lamp or Perfection Oil Heater from your dealer, write to our nearest agency for descriptive circular. STANDARD OIL COMPANY (Incorporated)

A GREAT BLESSING TO MANY. SHAKE WELL IN A BOTTLE—SPLENDID PRESCRIPTION FOR KIDNEY AND BLADDER TROUBLE AND RHEUMATISM. Muscular Pains Cured. "During the summer of 1903 I was troubled with muscular pains in the instep of my foot," says Mr. S. Pedlar, of Toronto, Ont. "At times it was so painful I could hardly walk. Chamberlain's Pain Balm was recommended to me, so I tried it and was completely cured by one small bottle. I have since recommended it to several of my friends, all of whom speak highly of it." For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists. The tightest money is the hoarded sort. Currency kept out of the general current is in a state of pecuniary multiplication. CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson.

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